



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 314, February 20, 2026

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section (updated as conditions warrant) and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

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<http://www.arrl.org/bulletins> to subscribe. (The online archive is no longer updated.)

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

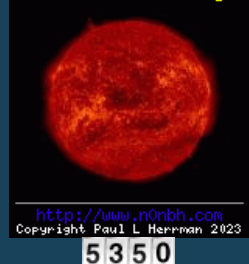
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](#), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

21 Feb 2026 1815 GMT
SFI: 111 SN: 11
A-Index: 12
K-Index: 1
X-Ray: B3.3
304A: 118.8 @ SEM
Ptn Flx: 35
Elc Flx: 2930
Aurora: 2/n=1.99
Mag (Bz): -0.7
Solar Wind: 510.8
Geomag Field VR QUIET
Sig Noise Lvl S0-S1
Current Solar Image



<http://www.n0nbh.com>
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DX News

3B8, MAURITIUS. Matt, DL5PT, is QRV as **3B8/DL5PT** from Flic-en-Flac **until the end of March**.

Activity is in his spare time on 20 through 10 meters using FT8. QSL to [DL5PT](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0327)

3B8, MAURITIUS. Michael, OE6MBG will be active as **3B8/OE6MBG** from Mauritius (AF-049) on **February 2nd-23rd**. He plans to focus on 80 and 40 meters, using SSB, CW and possibly some FT8/FT4. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog.

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0227)

3Y, BOUVET. The vessel Argus is still enroute to Cape Town and is expected there on February 17th. With a minimum port stay of 2 days for loading, sailing from Cape Town for Bouvet on the 19th would bring the team **to the island on February 27th** under ideal conditions after a voyage of 2600km from Cape Town. A more realistic estimation sees them landing on the island at the beginning of March. For the vessel's voyage see: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/de/ais/details/ships/shipid:156518/mm:219226000/imo:7104752/vessel:ARGUS>.

-[DXNL # 2497 February 11, 2026] (0213-0227)

4S, SRI LANKA. Peter, DCØKK is QRV as **4S7KKG until March 31st**. Activity is on 60 through 6 meters using FT8, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL to [DCØKK](#), [ClubLog's QQRS](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 22, 2026] (0123-0403)

5X, UGANDA. Richard, HB9FHV is active as **5X4TA** from Uganda **until February 28th**. Look for him "almost daily" on or around 14185, 21185 and 28485 kHz from 1500 to 1600 UTC. QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0220-0227)

5Z, KENYA. Michael, OZ6ABL will be active as **5Z4/OZ6ABL** from Watamu (LI06ap), Kenya, from **January 15th to February 28th**. Activity will be holiday style on 80-6 meters CW, SSB, and FT8/FT4. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's QQRS](#), or via [OZ6ABL](#).

-[425DXN # 1810 January 10, 2026] (0109-0227)

8P, BARBADOS. Mike, VE2XB will be active holiday style as **8P9XB** from Barbados (NA-021) on **February 21st-28th**. He will operate CW and SSB on 80-10 meters. QSL direct to [VE2XB](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0220-0227)

8R, GUYANA. Team **8R1WA** (IZØEGA, IZØEVI, IZØEWJ and IZ6DSQ) will be active from Guyana on **February 19th-27th**. They will operate SSB and FT8 on 160-6 meters with up to six stations. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog: <https://guyana2026.wordpress.com>. QSL via [IZØEGA](#).

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0213-0227)

8R, GUYANA. Aldir, PY1SAD, is QRV as **8R1TM until February 23rd**. Activity is on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes during the week between 2300 and 0300z, and full-time on weekends. This includes being active on various FM and analog Satellites. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0227)

9K, KUWAIT. Special callsign **9K9NLD** by the Kuwait Amateur Radio Society celebrates Kuwait National Day (February 25th) and Liberation Day (February 26th) on **February 16th-28th**. QSL via [EC6DX](#).

-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0220-0227)

A6, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. The Emirates Amateur Radio Society operating as **A6ØKWT** will join the celebrations of Kuwait National Day (February 25th) and Liberation Day (February 26th) on **February 19th-27th**. QSL via [EA7FTR](#)

-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0220-0227)

C2, NAURU. Phill, FK1TS is active again as **C21TS** from Nauru (OC-031) until "towards the **end of July**", he says, when he will QRT for good. He operates FT8 and possibly will try some SSB. QSOs are live streamed on ClubLog. QSL via LoTW, or [MØOXO's QQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0227)

C5, THE GAMBIA. Przemko, SP3PS and Magda are QRV as **C5SP** and **C5MB**, respectively, from Sanyang **until March 1st**. Activity is on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL direct via [SP3PS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 22, 2026] (0123-0227)

CO, CUBA. A group of Cuban operators will be QRV as **T45FM** on SSB, CW, FT8 and FT4 from the lighthouse at Punta Maya, Cuba (NA-015) on **February 20th-22nd** during the American Lighthouses Weekend. QSL via [KR4DWD](#).

-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0220-0227)

CU, AZORES. Operators EA1DAV, EA5KA and EA7X will be QRV as **CR2N** as a Multi/2 entry in the ARRL CW DX contest (**February 21st-22nd**). QSL via operators' instructions.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0227)

DL, GERMANY. Celebrating a half-century of German research in Antarctica, special callsigns **DAØANT**, **DM5ØANT** and **DP5ØANT** will be active from **February 15th to April 30th**. In addition, **DM5ØGFS** will also be active on **April 1st-30th** (for the 50th anniversary of the Georg Forster Station, established by the GDR in 1976 and decommissioned in 1993), as well as **DP2ØØGVN** (for the bicentenary of the birth of Georg von Neumayer, after whom three German Antarctic research stations have been named). See <https://50ant.hamaward.de/en/german-antarctic-research/> for complete information on the "50 Years of German Antarctic Research" award.
-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0213-0501)

DL, GERMANY. To celebrate the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games Milano Cortina 2026, the DARC Team SES will be active as **DD2Ø26OWG** (**February 1st - March 1st**) and **DD2Ø26WPG** (**March 1st - April 1st**). QSL via [DK5ON](#), LoTW and DCL (DARC Community Logbook).
-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0130-0403)

DU, PHILIPPINES. Bob, KB7TX, is QRV as **DU9/KB7TX** from Mindanao (OC-130) **until March 1st**. Activity is on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 5, 2026] (0206-0306)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of February 20, 2026:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. KH4	Midway Island
2. KH3	Johnston Island	12. VKØM	Macquarie Island
3. KH7K	Kure Island	13. EZ	Turkmenistan
4. CEØX	San Felix Islands	14. KP5	Desecheo Island
5. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	15. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	16. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. YK	Syria
8. YVØ	Aves Island	18. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
9. BV9P	Pratas Island	19. FT/T	Tromelin Island
10. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island	20. VKØH	Heard Island

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>
-[KØCF February 20, 2026] (0220-0313)

ET, ETHIOPIA. Ethiopian Amateur Radio Society station **ET3AA** has been active on 30 meters FT8 between 0400 and 0530z. QSL via [N2OO](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0313)

EU, BELARUS. Special callsign **EV81OB** will be QRV to commemorate Operation Bagration, a major World War II offensive by the Red Army to liberate Belarus from fascist occupation. This includes being active in the CQ Worldwide WPX RTTY contest (**February 14th-15th**). QSL via operators' instructions.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 12, 2026] (0213-0227)

F, FRANCE. The radio club Marseille F6KRD is going to participate as **TM13X** in the Coupe du REF SSB contest (**February 21st-22nd**) from the island Ratonneau (EU-095). All QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, ClubLog and eQSL, and will also be confirmed automatically via the bureau.
-[DXNL # 2494 January 21, 2026] (0220-0227)

F, FRANCE. Francois, F8DVD will be active as **TM23AAW** from **February 16th to March 2nd** to promote the 23rd Antarctic Activity Week (February 16th-22nd). He will be QRV on 40-10 meters from his home QTH in France. QSL via [F8DVD](#) and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0213-0306)

FJ, ST. BARTHELEMY. Andreas, DK6AS is QRV as **FJ/DK6AS** **until sometime in March**. Activity is on 80 through 6 meters using CW, FT8, and FT4. This includes being an entry in the ARRL CW DX contest (February 21st-22nd). QSL via [DK6AS](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0313)

FM, MARTINIQUE. Francis, F6BWJ, is QRV as **FM/F6BWJ** from Sainte Luce **until March 23rd**. Activity is mostly on 12 and 10 meters using CW. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 12, 2026] (0213-0327)

FY, FRENCH GUIANA. Yves, F5PRU and also 6W1TA, relocated to French Guiana some years ago and now plans to get back on the air as **FY8BP** with plans for activating rare locations in the country on CW, SSB, and maybe also digital modes. QSL via [6W1TA](#) or REF bureau.

-[DXNL # 2497 February 11, 2026] (0213-0306)

GM, SCOTLAND. Rob, VE3JR, puts Arran Island (EU-123) on the air as **MM7RXH** **until the end of February**.

-[DXNL # 2497 February 11, 2026] (0213-0227)

H4, SOLOMON IS. Bernhard, DL2GAC, will be QRV as **H44MS** from Manakwai Village on Malaita Island (OC-047) from **January 18th to April 15th**. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL to [DL2GAC](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0417)

HA, HUNGARY. Hungarian physicist Zoltan Bay (1900-1992) played a pivotal role in advancing Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) communication through his pioneering experiment conducted on February 6, 1946. To commemorate the 80th anniversary of Bay's achievements, on **February 6th-28th** the Hungarian Radio Amateur Society (MRASZ) will host a special radio activity with callsigns **HG8ØBAY**, **HG8ØEARTH**, **HG8ØEME**, **HG8ØLUNA**, **HG8ØMOON**, **HG8ØRADAR**. Commemorative certificates will be available on <https://mrasz.org/bay80>. QSL via LoTW and [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0206-0227)

HZ, SAUDI ARABIA. Joining the celebrations of Kuwait National Day (February 25th) and Liberation Day (February 26th) will be the Saudi Amateur Radio Society operating as **HZ1KWT** on **February 19th-25th**.

-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0220-0227)

HZ, SAUDI ARABIA. Members of the Saudi Amateur Radio Society (HZ1SAR) are active as **7Z3FD**, **8Z3FD**, and **HZ3FD** on **February 18th-22nd**. The special callsigns celebrate Saudi Arabia's Founding Day (February 22nd).

-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0220-0227)

I, ITALY. Members of ARI Milano, ARI Cadore and ARI Brunico/Bruneck will activate four special callsigns **I12WOG**, **I13COR**, **I13WOG**, and **I13BIA** from **February 6th to March 22nd** for the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games Milano Cortina 2026. Certificates and eQSLs will be available on <https://hamaward.cloud/>. QSL I12WOG via [I1Q2MI](#), I13COR via [I1Q3DD](#), I13WOG and I13BIA via [I1Q3ED](#).

-[425DXN # 1810 January 10, 2026] (0206-0327)

J5, GUINEA-BISSAU. Team **J51A** will be active from Bubaque Island (AF-020), Guinea-Bissau for **three weeks, starting sometime around February 24th**. The actual dates will be posted to <https://www.qrz.com/db/J51A> once the team has reached its destination. QO-100 has been added to the planned activities, with SSB, CW and FT8 (MSHV) operations expected to start a couple of days after the other bands. QSL via [DJ4MX](#) or [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0220-0313)

J5, GUINEA-BISSAU. Livio, IZ3BUR is QRV as **J52EC** **until March 1st**. He has been active on 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL direct to [IZ3BUR](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0227)

J6, ST. LUCIA. In commemoration of the 47th anniversary of the Independence of St. Lucia, J6-stations can use the **J647** prefix **until February 23rd**.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0227)

JA, JAPAN. Moto, JA1GZV will be active again as **JS6UKY/6** from Miyako Island (AS-079) and Okinawa Island (AS-017) from **February 24th to March 6th**. He will operate CW on or around 7011, 10123, 14011, 18075, 21011, 24897, and 28011 kHz. QSL via JS6UKY (bureau), eQSL, or direct to

[JA1GZV](#).

-[425DXN # 1816 February 21, 2026] (0220-0306)

JA, JAPAN. Hide, JO1CRA, operates holiday-style from Ishigaki, Yaiyama Islands (AS-024) from **February 19th to 21st** as **JO1CRA/JR6** on 40, 30, 20, 17, and 10m (CW, FT8). QSL via [JO1CRA](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2498 February 18, 2026] (0220-0227)

JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, **JG8NQJ/JD1** expects to be back to the weather station on Minami Torishima (OC-073) from **February 26th until mid-May**. In his limited spare time, he will operate mainly CW with some FT8 (note that he wants you to call with your signal report, not your grid square). QSL via [JA8CJY](#) (direct), JG8NQJ (bureau) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0220-0508)

K, UNITED STATES. Special callsign **W7P** will be used by the Northern Arizona DX Association to conduct a 10-year special event countdown to the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Pluto by Clyde Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona (February 18, 1930). The inaugural event was held in 2021; this year's Pluto Anniversary Countdown will run on **February 14th-22nd**. Also, Doug Tombaugh (N3PDT), Clyde Tombaugh's nephew, will be operating during the event as **W7P/Ø**. See https://www.nadxa.com/w7p_pluto_2030.html for information. QSL direct to [W7P](#).

-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0213-0227)

K, UNITED STATES. Team **N4T** will be active from Garden Key, Dry Tortuga's National Park (NA-079) from **February 19th to 25th**. They plan to be QRV on various bands and modes with up to three stations during the day and at least one station overnight. Updates will be posted to <https://www.drytortugas.info>. QSOs will be uploaded to Club Log and LoTW. QSL direct to [KC3YQL](#).

-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0213-0227)

KH2, GUAM. Toshinobu, JI3ERV and Toshimasa, JR7OMD plan to be QRV as **AH2R** as a Multi/Op entry in the ARRL CW DX contest (**February 21st-22nd**). QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0227)

KH6, HAWAII. Fred, NA2U will be QRV as **KH7M** in both ARRL International DX contests: CW on **February 21st-22nd** and SSB on **March 7th-8th**. QSL direct to [NA2U](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0313)

KH6, HAWAII. KH7U, K1ZM, NH7T, N6TV, and N6TJ operate the ARRL CW DX contest (**February 21st-22nd**) as **KH6J** from KH6YY's stations. QSL via [AH6OZ](#).

-[DXNL # 2497 February 11, 2026] (0220-0227)

KP5, DESECHEO. DXpedition Extended. The original recovery date for **NP3VI** was February 12th; however, deteriorating sea conditions have required a delay in equipment recovery **until March 3rd**.

As a result, the DXpedition will remain on the air longer, providing additional opportunities for operators to work Desecheo Island for an All Time New One (ATNO), which remains our primary focus. During the extension period, we will continue to operate on the bands and modes that have proven most effective and productive.

We will be conducting an ATNO Day for twelve hours, beginning at 1200 UTC on February 15th, and ending at 0000 UTC on February 16th. During this period, we will be focused on FT8 from 1200-1400 UTC, after which we will focus on SSB. Operation will be in the U.S. General portion of the bands.

We respectfully ask operators who do not need Desecheo Island for an ATNO to please refrain from calling us during this period. This will help maximize opportunities for those who still need this rare entity in their log. See <https://www.facebook.com/people/Desecheo-2026-Dxpedition/61585525894897/> for updates.

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0213-0306)

OE, AUSTRIA. Celebrating World Radio Day, the VIC Amateur Radio Contest DX Club (<https://4u1a.club/>) will operate CW, SSB and digital modes as **4UNR** (United Nations Radio) on **February 13th-28th**. This activity counts for Austria for DXCC, and for the Vienna International Centre for the CQ DX Marathon. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0213-0227)

OX, GREENLAND. Michael, **OX3MC**, plans to get on the air whenever time permits from **December 29th to February 25th** from Pituffik Space Base (NA-018). QRV on 80-10m, mostly on SSB. QSL via OZ QSL bureau.

-[DXNL # 2490 December 24, 2025] (1226-0227)

P4, ARUBA. John, W2GD will be active again as **P44W** from Aruba (SA-036) on **February 16th-23rd**, with main activity during the ARRL CW DX contest (February 21st-22nd). Before the contest he will operate CW on 30, 17 and 12 meters. QSL via LoTW, or [N2MM](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0213-0227)

PJ2, CURACAO. Andre, PD1DRE will be active again as **PJ2/PD1DRE** from Curacao (SA-099) from **January 26th to March 4th**. He operates SSB and FT8/FT4. QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0123-0306)

PJ2, CURACAO. Thaire, W2APF will be active as **PJ2/W2APF** from Curacao (SA-099) from **January 22nd to March 31st**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 80-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [W2APF](#).

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0116-0403)

PJ4, BONAIRE. N3RD and K3CT join the ARRL CW DX Contest (**February 21st-22nd**) as **PJ4K** from Bonaire (SA-006). QRV also 1-2 days before. QSL via [KU9C](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2498 February 18, 2026] (0220-0227)

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN. Ros, 4Z5LA is QRV as **PJ7/4Z5LA** until **February 25th**. QSL via [4Z5LA](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0227)

PY, BRAZIL. To commemorate the 92nd anniversary of the Brazilian Amateur Radio League Society LABRE, these 28 special event stations are QRV until **February 28th**:

**ZV8AC, ZV7AL, ZV8AP, ZV8AM, ZV6BA, ZV7CE,
ZV2DF, ZV1ES, ZV2GO, ZV8MA, ZV9MT, ZV9MS,
ZV4MG, ZV7PB, ZV8PA, ZV5PR, ZV7PE, ZV8PI,
ZV1RJ, ZV7RN, ZV3RS, ZV8RO, ZV8RR, ZV5SC,
ZV2SP, ZV6SE, ZV2TO, ZV2LB.**

Activity is on 160 through 6 meters, 2 meters, 70 centimeters, and 13 and 3 centimeters as well, using CW, SSB, and various digital modes. This includes being active on Satellite QO-100. An award is available; details are available [here](#). QSL via operators' instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 5, 2026] (0206-0227)

SP, POLAND. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the city of Gdynia, six special callsigns, **SP1ØØG, SQ1ØØD, SO1ØØY, SN1ØØN, HF1ØØI** and **3Z1ØØA**, will be activated on **February 7th-22nd**. A certificate will be available, see <https://ot09.pzk.org.pl/akcje/100gdynia/100gdy.php> for the details. QSL via [SP2PGD](#).

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0206-0227)

T8, PALAU. Czech DXpedition Team members OK1BOA, OK2ZA, OK3RM and OK6DJ will be active as **T8OK** from Palau on **March 4th-19th**. They will operate CW, FT8, SSB and RTTY on 160-10 meters, plus 6m. Full LoTW upload after six months. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), or via [OK6DJ](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0227-0320)

T8, PALAU. Operators JA3AVO, JH3LSS, and JA3HJI will be QRV as **T88MB, T88CZ, and T88DN**, respectively, from **February 14th to 22nd**. QSL T88MB via [JA3AVO](#), T88CZ via [JH3LSS](#), and T88DN via [JA3HJI](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 12, 2026] (0213-0227)

TI, COSTA RICA. Nate, N4YDU will be QRV as **TI7W** in the ARRL CW DX contest (**February 21st-22nd**). Activity will be on all bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 7 February 19, 2026] (0220-0227)

TL, CENTRAL AFRICA. Joao, CR7BNW, is QRV as **TL8BNW** until **June 1st**. Pending the arrival of new equipment this weekend, he plans to upgrade his station's capabilities for a specialized run on 160

meters. From **February 4th to 14th**, he will temporarily modify his dipole antenna to focus **exclusively on 160m** SSB and digital modes. After that period, he will reconfigure the dipole to restore its standard multi-band functionality, returning to his regular operations on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0306)

TY, BENIN. Gerard, F5NVF, is QRV as **TY5GG** until **April 6th**. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0410)

TZ, MALI. Ulmar, DK1CE will be active again as **TZ1CE** from Bamako, Mali from **February 10th to March 1st**. He will operate mainly SSB and FT8, with a focus on 160m FT8, 80m FT8 and 6 meters. QSOs will be uploaded to Club Log on a daily basis, and to LoTW after the operation. QSL via [DK1CE](#).

-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0206-0306)

UR, UKRAINE. Established in 1947, the British Faraday Antarctic Station was transferred to Ukraine in February 1996 and renamed Akademik Vernadsky. Celebrating that 30th anniversary, five special callsigns will be active from **February 1st to March 1st**: **EM3ØVER**, operated by Antarctic veterans - **EM3ØKY** (op. UT1KY), **EM3ØKCC** (op. UR5KCC), **EM3ØLV** (op. UR8LV), and **EN3ØUA** (op. UT7UA). A certificate will be available, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/EM3ØVER> for information.

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0130-0227)

V3, BELIZE. WCØW, K5PI, N5TJ, K5TR, W5MJ, WWØG, VE7KW, and VA7DX will be active in the ARRL CW DX Contest (**February 21st-22nd**) as **V3T**. QRV also before and after with their individual Belize callsigns. QSL V3T via [WCØW](#).

-[DXNL # 2498 February 18, 2026] (0220-0227)

V3, BELIZE. Uwe, DL8UD will be active as **V31KO** from Belize on **February 19th-26th**. He will participate in the ARRL CW DX contest (February 21st-22nd) as **V3O**. QSL via [EA5GL](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0213-0227)

V3, BELIZE. Walt, WØCP as **V31DJ** (CW and SSB) and his wife Mary, KØZV as **V31DK** (FT8 and FT4) will be active again from Placencia, Belize on **February 1st to 27th**. Look for them on 160-10 meters. QSL V31DJ via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or direct to [WØCP](#); QSL V31DK via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or direct to [KØZV](#).

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0130-0227)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Chris, WA7RAR will be active as **V4/WA7RAR** from St. Kitts (NA-104) from **February 21st to March 7th**. He will operate SSB and CW on 20-10 meters, also with portable activity from various POTA sites. QSL via LoTW, QRZ Logbook, or direct to [WA7RAR](#).

-[425DXN # 1815 February 14, 2026] (0220-0306)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Tom, KØYA and his wife Toni, W5RCX will be active again as **V4/KØYA** and **V4/W5RCX** from St. Kitts (NA-104) from **February 4th to March 9th**. Activity will be holiday style on 160-6 meters CW, SSB, FT8, FT4. Look for Tom to participate as **V47Y** in both legs of the ARRL International DX Contest, CW (February 21st-22nd) and SSB (March 7th-8th). QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0313)

VP2M, MONTSERRAT. Chuck, KG9N, is going to pay Montserrat (NA-103) a visit from **February 17th until March 3rd**. QRV as **VP2MCV**. QSL via [KG9N](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2497 February 11, 2026] (0213-0306)

VP5, TURKS & CAICOS IS. John, N5VOF, and his sons Josiah, WD5JR, and Isaiah, KJ5CMP, are active until **February 23rd** from Caicos (NA-002), signing **VP5/N5VOF**, **VP5/WD5JR** and **VP5/KJ5CMP** from various POTA locations. QRV on 80 through 6 meters on CW and SSB. QSL with SASE to [N5VOF](#).

-[DXNL # 2498 February 18, 2026] (0220-0306)

VP8, FALKLAND IS. Martina, DF3TS, and Thomas, DC8TM, will be QRV as **VP8TM** from **February 14th to 28th**. Activity will be holiday style on 20 through 10 meters using SSB and FT8 from Saunders,

Carcass, West Falkland, Sea Lion, and East Falkland Islands, as well as from various SOTA, POTA, and WWFF locations. QSL via [DC8TM](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 12, 2026] (0213-0227)

VP8/O,LU, SOUTH ORKNEY IS. Gabriel, LU1WGB, is QRV as **LU1WGB/Z** from the Joint Antarctic Base Orcadas on Laurie Island (AN-008) **until February 22nd**. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using FT8. QSL to [LU1WGB](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0227)

VP9, BERMUDA. AB2E and K3TEJ will be QRV as **AB2E/VP9** and **K3TEJ/VP9**, respectively, from **February 17th to 24th**. They will be active as **VP9I** in the ARRL CW DX contest (February 21st-22nd). QSL VP9I via [WW3S](#); AB2E/VP9 via [AB2E](#); K3TEJ/VP9 via [K3TEJ](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 12, 2026] (0213-0227)

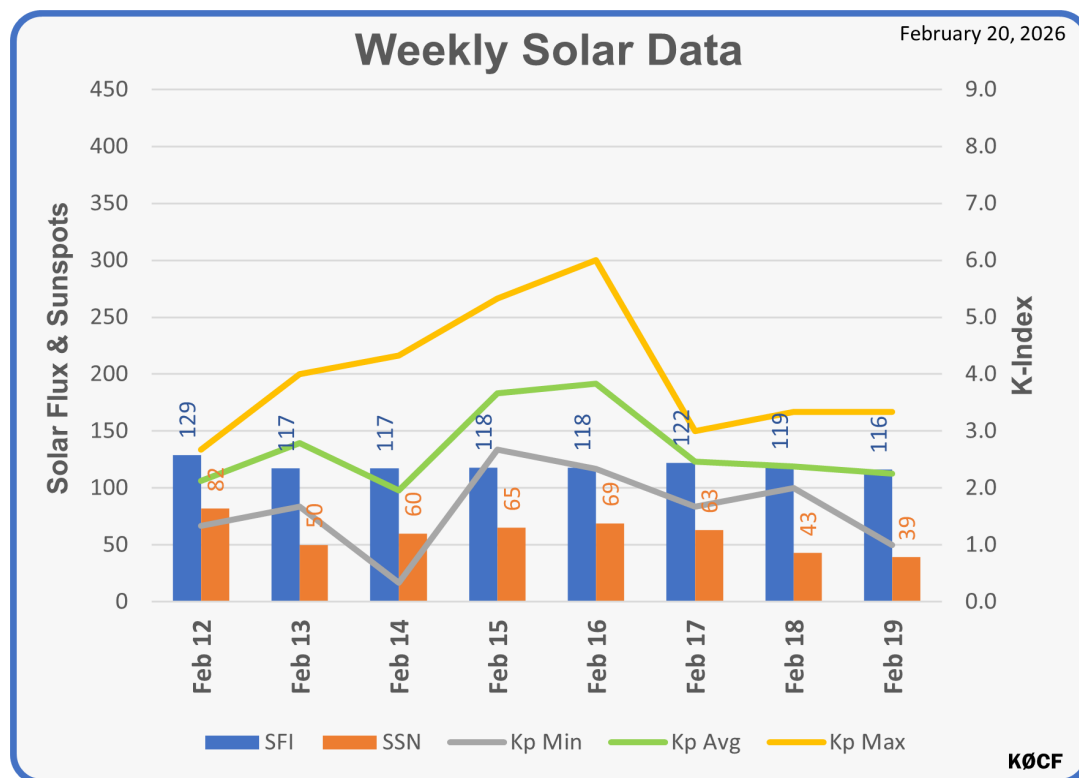
YU, SERBIA. To commemorate the 170th anniversary of Nikola Tesla's birth, members of the Amateur Radio Union of Serbia (YUØSRS) will be active as **YT17ØTESLA** from **January 31st until the end of the year**. QSL via LoTW; paper QSL cards will not be available.

-[425DXN # 1814 February 7, 2026] (0206-0227)

ZL, NEW ZEALAND. ZL3PAH celebrates his personal 60 years on the air with the callsign **ZL6ØPAH** **until February 22nd**. QSL via [ZL3PAH](#).

-[DXNL # 2498 February 18, 2026] (0220-0227)

Propagation



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's

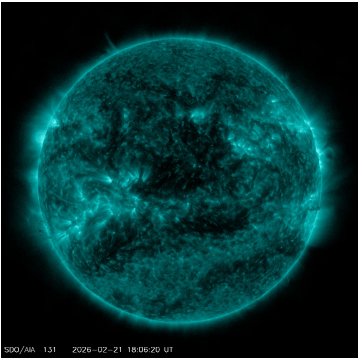
NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Thursday, February 12th through Thursday, February 19th.

The average solar flux was 118, down 31 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 129 on Thursday, February 12th, followed by a low of 116 on February 19th.

The average sunspot count was 56, down by 52 from last week, peaking at 82 on Thursday, February 12th followed by a weekly low of 39 on February 19th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 4.0 with a maximum of 6.0 on Monday, February 16th, indicating a moderate geomagnetic storm. The most recent K-index maximum was 3.3 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since February 13th has been quiet with only 1 major flare, which was an M 2.4 event on Monday, February 16th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Friday, February 13th through 1428 UTC, February 20th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Feb 16	0435	M 2.4

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Feb 20	10%	1%	120
Feb 21	10%	1%	115
Feb 22	10%	1%	115

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on February 16, 2026).



Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 20	110	2
Feb 21	105	2
Feb 22	120	2
Feb 23	130	3

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 24	135	5
Feb 25	130	5
Feb 26	130	3
Feb 27	140	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 28	160	2
Mar 1	165	2
Mar 2	170	2
Mar 3	170	2

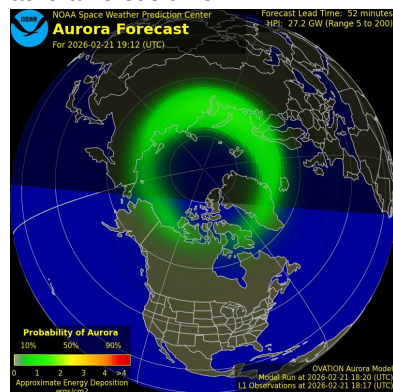
Global D Region Absorption

Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:

 [Absorption](#)

The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by “back-scatter” and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.

Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead

to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

(Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources.)

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 20	2200Z	Feb 22	2159Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	Feb 21	0000Z	Feb 22	2400Z	Rules
REF Contest, SSB	Feb 21	0600Z	Feb 22	1800Z	Rules
South Carolina QSO Party	Feb 21	1500Z	Feb 22	0159Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Feb 28	1800Z	Mar 1	0600Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	Mar 7	0000Z	Mar 8	2400Z	Rules
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 14	1400Z	Mar 15	2100Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 14	1500Z	Mar 15	1500Z	Rules

Idaho QSO Party	Mar 14	1900Z	Mar 15	1900Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 15	0000Z	Mar 15	0359Z	Rules
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 15	1800Z	Mar 16	0100Z	Rules
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 21	0200Z	Mar 23	0200Z	Rules
Russian DX Contest	Mar 21	1200Z	Mar 22	1200Z	Rules
Virginia QSO Party	Mar 21	1400Z	Mar 22	2400Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Mar 28	0000Z	Mar 29	2400Z	Rules
Louisiana QSO Party	Apr 4	1400Z	Apr 5	0200Z	Rules
SP DX Contest	Apr 4	1500Z	Apr 5	1500Z	Rules
QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	Apr 11	0000Z	Apr 11	2359Z	Rules
JIDX CW Contest	Apr 11	0700Z	Apr 12	1300Z	Rules
OK/OM DX Contest, SSB	Apr 11	1200Z	Apr 12	1159Z	Rules
New Mexico QSO Party	Apr 11	1400Z	Apr 12	0200Z	Rules
Georgia QSO Party	Apr 11	1800Z	Apr 12	2359Z	Rules
CQMM DX Contest	Apr 18	0900Z	Apr 19	2359Z	Rules
Michigan QSO Party	Apr 18	1600Z	Apr 19	0400Z	Rules
Ontario QSO Party	Apr 18	1800Z	Apr 19	1800Z	Rules
Quebec QSO Party	Apr 19	1200Z	Apr 19	2200Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 19	1800Z	Apr 19	2359Z	Rules
Florida QSO Party	Apr 25	1600Z	Apr 26	2159Z	Rules
7th Call Area QSO Party	May 2	1300Z	May 3	0700Z	Rules
Indiana QSO Party	May 2	1600Z	May 3	0400Z	Rules
Delaware QSO Party	May 2	1700Z	May 3	2359Z	Rules
New England QSO Party	May 2	2000Z	May 3	2400Z	Rules
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 9	1200Z	May 10	1159Z	Rules
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	May 16	1200Z	May 17	1200Z	Rules
Arkansas QSO Party	May 16	1400Z	May 17	0200Z	Rules

(Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#))